

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants - State Tax Department - Surprise check conducted by the ACB on the Boarder Check Post of Commercial Taxes Department, Pondugula, Dachepalli Mandal, Guntur district on 03.06.2016 - Common disciplinary action initiated - Inquiry report along with disagreement factors communicated to the C.Os - Representations received - Examined - Punishment imposed in respect of 9 C.Os - Show Cause Notice issued to SO-10 - Explanation submitted - Imposed penalty of withholding of 3% in monthly pension for a period of (1) one year on Sri Meda Rambabu, Dy.Commr.(CT), Guntur-II Division (Retd) - Orders - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-VI) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 409

Dated: 09-05-2025
Read the following:-

1. From DG., ACB, Lr.Rc.No.79/DES-VGT/2016-S.17, dt.08.03.2017.
2. G.O.Ms.No.69, Revenue (Vig.II) Dept., dt.02.03.2020.
3. G.Os.Rt.No.302 to 311, Revenue (Vig.II) Dept., dt.02.03.2020.
4. G.O.Rt.No.808, Revenue (Vig.II) Dept., dt.09.10.2020.
5. G.O.Rt No.942, Revenue (Vig.II) Dept., dt.11.12.2020.
6. From the CCST., Lr.Ref.No.VI/241/2016, dt.09.09.2022.
7. Govt.Memo.No.REV-17023/39/2016-VIG.II-REV, dt.19.03.2023.
8. From the CCST, Lr.Ref.No.V1/241/2016, dt.06.05.2023 and 06.07.2023.
9. Written Representations of the Charged Officers.
10. G.O.Rt.No.689, Revenue (Vig-VI) Dept., dt.27.09.2024.
11. Govt.Memo.No.REV-17023/39/2016-VIG.II-REV (Comp.No.98458), dt.26.02.2025.
12. Explanation submitted by Sri M.Rambabu, Retd. Dy.Commr.(CT), dt.08.03.2025.

ORDER:

Whereas, in the reference 1st read above, the Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau has informed that a surprise check was conducted at the Border Check Post of the Commercial Tax Department at Pondugula, Dachepalli Mandal, Guntur district on 03.06.2016 and noticed that certain irregularities were committed by the officers and staff working at check post. He has recommended initiating departmental action against the following ten (10) Suspected Officers (SOs) to impose major penalty for violation of A.P. Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964:-

1. Sri Pasala Smithner, ACTO (SO.1)
2. Sri Lebakula Srinivasulu, Senior Assistant (SO.2)
3. Sri Penudi Raghavulu, Senior Assistant (SO.3)
4. Sri Thota Venkateswarlu, Junior Assistant (SO.4)
5. Sri Dasari Venkata Suresh Kumar, Junior Assistant (SO.5)

6. Sri Palisetty Veereswara Rao, Junior Assistant (SO.6)
7. Sri Chodavarapu Venkateswarlu, Office Subordinate (SO.7)
8. Sri Ande Santharam, Administrative Officer (SO.8)
9. Smt.Gorantla Manjula Rani, CTO, Piduguralla (SO.9)
10. Sri Meda Rambabu, DC(CT), Guntur-II Division (SO.10) (Retired from service)

2. Whereas, in the reference 2nd read above, Government initiated common disciplinary proceedings against SOs 1 to 9 of Commercial personnel under Rule 24 of the A.P.Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 for misconduct and violation of the A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964. In the reference 3rd read above, articles of charge were framed against each of them under Rule 20 of the APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991. In respect of SO.10, namely Sri M.Rambabu, Dy.Commissioner (CT), Guntur-II Division (Retd.), the Government initiated disciplinary action vide G.O.Ms.No.70, Revenue (Vig.II) Dept., dt.02.03.2020, under Rule 9 of the A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

3. Whereas, all the Charged Officers submitted their defense statements, and in the reference 5th read above, Sri D.Ramesh, Addl. CCST, O/o.CCT was appointed as the Inquiry Officer to inquire into the charges framed against the Charged Officers. In the reference 6th read above, the Chief Commissioner State Tax has furnished the Inquiry Report to the Govt., for taking further action. After examining the Inquiry Report, in the reference 7th read above, the inquiry report along with the disagreement factors, have been communicated to all the Charged Officers under Rule 21(2) of the A.P.Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 with a direction to submit their representations, if any, on the disagreement factors and findings of the Inquiry Authority, within (15) days from the date of receipt. All the Charged Officers submitted their explanations and requested to drop further action against them in this matter.

4. The Government, after a detailed examination of the Inquiry Report and the written representations submitted by the Charged Officers to the disagreement factors, found that although mediators did not witness any money exchanges during the surprise check, the unaccounted cash found suggests bribery. It was concluded that the Charged Officers were responsible for the seized amounts based on the preponderance of probability standard in departmental action. The Government have decided to impose penalties on the Charged Officers for committing irregularities and for violation of A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 as the written representations submitted by the Charged Officers to the disagreement factors of the disciplinary authority are not convincing.

5. Whereas, in the reference 10th read above, Government imposed the penalties against the 09 (nine) Charged Officers as they are in service. In respect of remaining Suspected Officer-10, Government have proposed to impose a penalty of withholding 3% pension for a period of (1) one year under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980 against Sri Meda Rambabu, Dy. Commissioner (Commercial Tax), Guntur-II Division, as he has retired from service.

6. Whereas, after examining the inquiry report, the proposal of the Chief Commissioner of State Tax and the representation of the Retired Charged

Officer, Government in the reference 11th read above a Show-Cause Notice was issued to Sri M.Rambabu, Dy.Commissioner (CT), Guntur-II Division and informed that the Government have provisionally decided to impose a penalty of withholding 3% pension for a period of (1) one year, under Rule 9 of A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980. Whereas, in the reference 12th read above, the Charged Officer Sri M. Rambabu, Dy. Commissioner (CT) has submitted his explanation stating that his service record of 36 years without any remark and the fact of his retirement (7 years ago) and in view of his family conditions he has requested the Government to drop proposed penalty and drop further action against him and otherwise it impacts heavily on the livelihood his family.

7. Government have examined the written representation of the Charged Officer, Sri M. Rambabu, Dy. Commissioner (CT), it is observed that the Charged Officer cannot shirk his responsibilities on the control over his subordinates and it is his bounden duty to supervise the subordinate staff not to involve such incidents at the Boarder Check Post in his jurisdiction and in the administration.

8. Government, after careful examination of the matter and written explanation submitted by the Charged Officer and in view of the findings of the Inquiry Officer, hereby order to impose penalty of withholding of 3% monthly pension for a period of (1) one year on Sri Meda Rambabu, Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, (Retired), Guntur-II Division.

9. The Chief Commissioner of State Tax, Andhra Pradesh, Kunchanapalli, Guntur shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

PEEYUSH KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The individual (through the Chief Commissioner of State
Tax, Andhra Pradesh, Kunchanapalli, Guntur district)
The Chief Commissioner of State Tax, A.P., Kunchanapalli,
Guntur district

Copy to:-
The Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Vijayawada
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, A.P.Vigilance
Commission
SF/SCs

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER